NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending May 7, 1995

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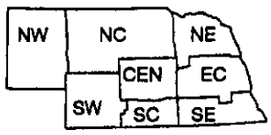

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged five to ten degrees below normals. Precipitation fell throughout the week with amounts ranging from a quarter of an inch in the northwest up to nearly three inches in the east.

GENERAL

Wet, cool weather conditions last week continued to delay spring fieldwork and to create health problems for newborn calves, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. With very few days suitable for fieldwork, producer activities included moving farm-stored grain to elevators, checking over or preparing planting equipment, considering a switch to a shorter season corn hybrid, and taking care of livestock.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 1% poor, 18% fair, 72% good, and 9% excellent. About 69% of the crop had jointed by week's end. This compared with 62% last year and 61% for the five-year average.

Corn planting made virtually no progress last week with only 5% of acreage seeded to date. Last year at this time 54% had been planted and the average was 48%.

CROPS (Cont.)

We have not had planting progress delayed to this extent since 1984 when 4% had been planted. Producers are considering switching to shorter season hybrids and remain anxious to get fieldwork underway.

Oat seeding made very little actual progress last week but producers are nearing completion due to time available for planting this spring. Some producers will probably not plant all of their intended oat acreage.

Sugar beet planting made progress where soil conditions permitted. Recent rains have benefitted the crop.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 1% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, and 6% excellent. Growth has been slowed due to cool, wet conditions.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 36% fair, 52% good, and 12% excellent. Some cattle have been moved to summer pastures, although grass growth has been slow. Other cattle must wait in muddy lots for additional grass growth to occur before being moved to pasture. Scours and pneumonia continued to be a problem for newborn calves.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 7, 1995	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Oats Sown	54	86	72	85	77	93	96	96	75	62	100	96
% Wheat Jointed	28	53	31	71	40	99	96	100	69	31	62	61
% Corn Planted	5	6	4	7	5	4	7	6	5	3	54	48
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 5, 1995												
Days suitable	2.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.0	1.5	1.5	2.6	3.4	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
(Percent) - Short	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	11	
- Adequate	66	32	30	21	11	16	22	28	29	64	74	
- Surplus	20	68	70	79	89	84	78	72	69	34	15	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	
(Percent) - Short	6	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	5	6	
- Adequate	80	46	53	78	45	64	67	80	61	81	88	
- Surplus	0	54	47	22	55	32	33	20	36	14	6	

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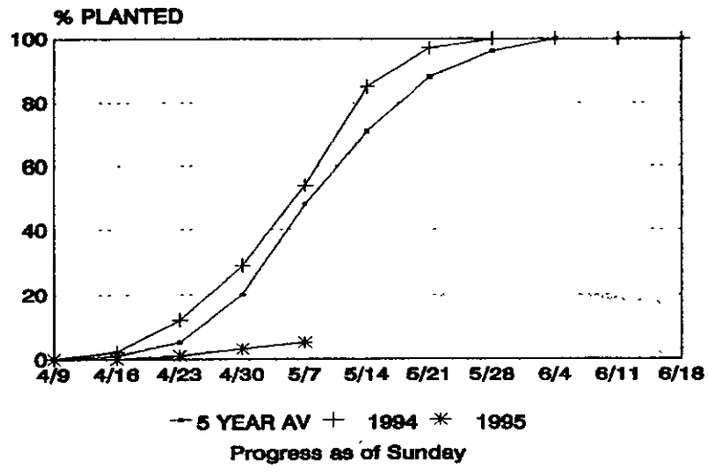
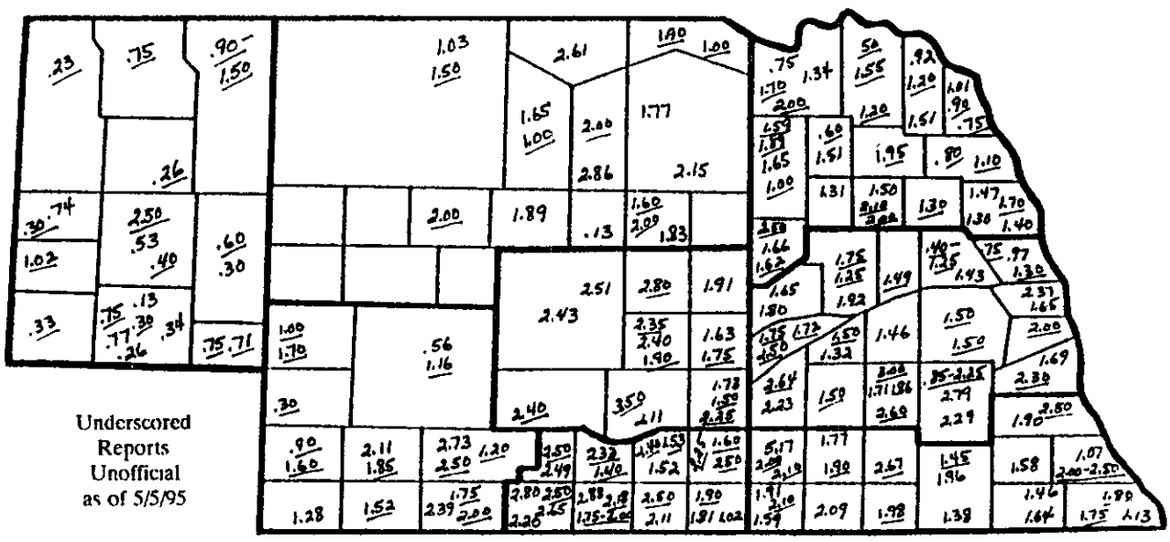
CORN PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1995



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 7, 1995

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	44	1.77	1.33	2.10	1 82	1.81	2 16	1.90
Total since April 1	3.16	5 64	5.34	5.15	5.63	4.81	4.25	5 38
Normal since April 1	2.47	2 89	3.30	3.23	3.62	2 57	2.93	3.68

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1995

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	66	29	49	---	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	66	29	48	-5	.74	18	43	165
	Sidney	67	30	47	---	.26	20	44	145
NC	Valentine	64	38	49	-4	1.03	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	27	51	142
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	32	61	170
NE	Norfolk	64	29	50	-7	1 31	---	---	---
	Sioux City	65	33	52	-5	1.01	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	38	66	183
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	32	54	166
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	44	73	177
CEN	Grand Island	59	30	48	-10	1.73	---	---	---
	Ord	61	32	49	---	---	38	62	182
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	43	64	195
	Wood River	---	---	---	---	---	46	67	192
EC	Lincoln	64	31	51	-7	2 79	62	98	202
	Omaha	67	31	52	-6	2 37	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	50	73	208
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	58	90	198
	Rising City	---	---	---	---	---	46	71	202
SW	North Platte	66	35	49	-5	.56	43	67	178
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	52	80	210
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	54	80	197
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	58	85	216
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	61	93	210
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	51	73	197

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.